

Notice of Objection Filing Period Francis Marion National Forest, Revised Land Management Plan Name of Responsible Official: John "Rick" Lint, Forest Supervisor Name of Reviewing Officer: Tony Tooke, Regional Forester Time zone of Reviewing Officer: Eastern The Forest Service, Region 8, Francis Marion National Forest, has prepared an Environmental Impact Statement for the Francis Marion National Forest, Revised Land Management Plan. The publication date of this notice in this newspaper initiates a 60-day period during which individuals or entities with specific concerns may file an objection for a Forest Service review. The environmental impact statement, revised forest plan, other supporting documentation, and a draft of the Record of Decision are available for review at

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/scnfs/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5393142> or the following offices: Supervisor's Office, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212, Telephone: 803-561-4000 Francis Marion District Office, 2967 Steed Creek Road, Huger, SC 29450, Telephone: (843) 336-3248 Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from Mary Morrison, 4931 Broad River Road, Columbia, 803-561-4000, mwmorrison@fs.fed.us. An electronic scan of the notice with the publication date will also be posted at

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/scnfs/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5393142> The publication date of this public notice of the beginning of the objection filing period of the plan revision in this newspaper (36 CFR 219.16 and 219.52) initiates the objection filing period and is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. The objection process provides an opportunity for members of the public who have participated in the planning process for the Francis Marion National Forest to have any unresolved concerns reviewed by the Forest Service prior to a final decision by the Responsible Official. Only those who provided substantive formal comments during opportunities for public comment during the planning process are eligible to file an objection. Regulations at 36 CFR 219 subpart B define substantive formal comments as: Written comments submitted to, or oral comments recorded by, the responsible official or his designee during an opportunity for public participation provided during the planning process, and attributed to the individual or entity providing them. Comments are considered substantive when they are within the scope of the proposal, are specific to the proposal, have a direct relationship to the proposal, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider. How to File an Objection The Forest Service will accept mailed, emailed, faxed, and hand-delivered objections concerning this action for 60 calendar days

following the date of this notice. It is the responsibility of the objector to ensure that the Reviewing Officer receives the objection in a timely manner. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the objection filing period. Objections must be submitted to the Reviewing Officer Tony Tooke, Regional Forester, at 1720 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30309, 404-347-4177 (voice), 404-347-4821 (fax), or submitted electronically at objections-southern-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Objections or objection content specific to the identification of species of conservation concern will be forwarded to Brian Ferebee, Associate Deputy Chief, signing for the Chief of the Forest Service. The office business hours for those submitting a hand-delivered objection are: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a commonly used format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Microsoft Word® (.doc or .docx). An objection must include the following (36 CFR 219.54(c)): (1) The objector's name and address along with a telephone number or email address if available - in cases where no identifiable name is attached to an objection, the Forest Service will attempt to verify the identity of the objector to confirm objection eligibility; (2) Signature or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the objection); (3) Identification of the lead objector, when multiple names are listed on an objection. The Forest Service will communicate to all parties to an objection through the lead objector. Verification of the identity of the lead objector must also be provided if requested; (4) The name of the plan revision being objected to, and the name and title of the Responsible Official; (5) A statement of the issues and/or parts of the plan revision to which the objection applies; (6) A concise statement explaining the objection and suggesting how the proposed plan decision may be improved. If the objector believes that the plan revision is inconsistent with law, regulation, or policy, an explanation should be included; (7) A statement that demonstrates the link between the objector's prior substantive formal comments and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the opportunities for formal comment; and (8) All documents referenced in the objection (a bibliography is not sufficient), except that the following need not be provided: a. All or any part of a Federal law or regulation, b. Forest Service Directive System documents and land management plans or other published Forest Service documents, c. Documents referenced by the Forest Service in the planning documentation related to the proposal subject to objection, and d. Formal comments previously provided to the Forest Service by the objector during the plan revision comment period.

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